

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 COME-00 INT-05 GSA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /090 W

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R 121906Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9814

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, EPAP, ETRD, MY

SUBJECT: TIN -- MEETING WITH MALAYSIA ITC REP

REF: A) STATE 58413

B) KUALA LUMPUR 1381

1. US REP INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL INTERIM COMMITTEE
HAD LONG CONVERSATION MARCH 11 WITH MALAYSIAN REP
ABDUL FATAH BIN ZAKARIA (MALAYSIA HIGH COMMISSION,
TRADE COMMISSIONER).

2. FATAH'S ARGUMENTS FOR LAI'S CANDIDACY WERE ALMOST
PRECISELY THOSE STATED IN REF B. HE STRESSED (A)
LAI'S CANDIDACY STOOD ON OWN AND WAS SEPARATE ISSUE
FROM ADNAN/BUENO AFFAIR; AND (B) PRODUCERS (EXCEPT
AUSTRALIA) SOLIDLY BEHIND LAI. RE (A), US REP REPLIED,
ALONG LINES OF PARA 3, REF (A) THAT BE THAT AS IT
MAY, REGRETEABLY LAI CANDIDACY HAD BECOME LINKED IN
PEOPLE'S MINDS WITH THE SACKING ISSUE LAST SPRING
AND THIS COULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES.

3. US REP EXPRESSED REGRET THAT EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN
ISSUE HAD BECOME SO POLITICIZED AND SUGGESTED COOLING
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OFF PERIOD NEEDED WHILE THE CONTACT GROUP SEARCHED

FOR COMPROMISE.

4. COMMENT: WE AGREE WITH KUALA LUMPUR THAT GOM SEEKS TO HAVE SHIFTED POSITION ON SACKING OF ADNAN (FATAH SAID, "THAT IS A SEPARATE ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN SETTLED"). NEW TACTIC IS CERTAINLY A MORE REASONED APPROACH BUT WILL NOT SOUND TOO CONVINCING TO DELEGATES HERE IN LONDON.

ARMSTRONG

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